

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 8, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and this paper is Applicant's response thereto. Claims 12, 28-39, 41-44, 47 and 54-58 were deemed allowable. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 13-19, 22, and 23 were rejected. Claims 4, 10, 20-21, 24-27, 40, 45-46, 49-53 and 59 were cancelled.

Claims Rejection – Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, 13-19, 22, and 23 were rejected under the nonstatutory ground of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,378,289 to Trudeau *et al.* ("Trudeau"). While not agreeing with the suggestion by the Office Action that the pending claims are obvious in view of claims 1-12, to expedite prosecution a terminal disclaimer with respect to Trudeau is being filed in conjunction with this response. Therefore, this ground of rejection is believed to be obviated.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections have been addressed. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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